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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Reverend Richard  
4 D. McCreary II on the occasion of his 30th anniversary as  
5 Pastor of the New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church in  
6 Phoenix; and

7           WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II was born in Evergreen,  
8 Alabama, to the late Mr. Richard D. McCreary, Sr. and Leodia P.  
9 McCreary; and

10           WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II graduated from the  
11 Conecuh County Training School of Evergreen; he then attended  
12 Florida A & M University in Tallahassee, Florida, where he  
13 received his bachelor's degree in 1966; in 1970, he earned his  
14 master's degree from Southern Illinois University in  
15 Carbondale; in 1974, he earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree  
16 from the University of Iowa; and in 1985, he earned his Master  
17 of Divinity degree from the Northern Baptist Theological  
18 Seminary in Lombard; he later completed work for his Doctor of  
19 Ministry degree; and

20           WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II has had a long and  
21 distinguished career in the ministry; he began his career on  
22 May 14, 1967, when he was licensed to preach by the First

1 Baptist Church of Evergreen, Alabama; on March 1, 1970, he was  
2 ordained by the Rockhill Baptist Church of Carbondale, where he  
3 served as interim Pastor until 1971; he served as interim  
4 Pastor at the Rock Hill Baptist Church in Carbondale for one  
5 year and as Youth Pastor at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
6 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa for 4 years; in March of 1980, he  
7 relocated to the New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church in  
8 Phoenix, where he has remained ever since; and

9 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II is a former teacher in  
10 the Georgia and Alabama public school systems; he was employed  
11 as Professor of Composition at Governors State University for  
12 24 years until his retirement in 1996; he was also employed as  
13 an Adjunct Professor of Preaching at the Northern Baptist  
14 Theological Seminary; and

15 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II is a member of the  
16 Greater New Era District Association of Chicago and Vicinity,  
17 and the Phi Mu Alpha, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Omega Psi Phi  
18 Fraternities; he also serves as a staff writer for The Worker,  
19 a missionary and educational quarterly, and Urban Ministry, a  
20 Sunday School curriculum/commentary publication; and

21 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II is the founder of the New  
22 Covenant Theological Institute and the New Covenant Christian  
23 Academy and currently serves as Executive Director of the

1 organizations; and

2 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II has been the recipient of  
3 numerous awards for outstanding community service and  
4 leadership awards, including the Carter G. Woodson Award, the  
5 State of Iowa Award for Composition, and the Clapp Memorial  
6 Award for Composition; in 1984, he was voted Professor of the  
7 Year at Governors State University; and

8 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II is married to his college  
9 sweetheart, Barbara J. Pearson-McCreary M.D.; they are the  
10 loving parents of 3 children, Angela D. McCreary-Raybon, Nicole  
11 R. McCreary-Casmeay, and Richard D. McCreary, III, and the proud  
12 grandparents of 6 grandchildren; and

13 WHEREAS, Rev. Richard McCreary II serves as a model of hard  
14 work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of  
15 Illinois; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
18 congratulate Reverend Richard D. McCreary II on the occasion of  
19 his 30th anniversary as Pastor of the New Covenant Missionary  
20 Baptist Church in Phoenix and wish him continued success and  
21 happiness in the future; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to Rev. Richard McCreary II as a symbol of our esteem  
3 and respect.